



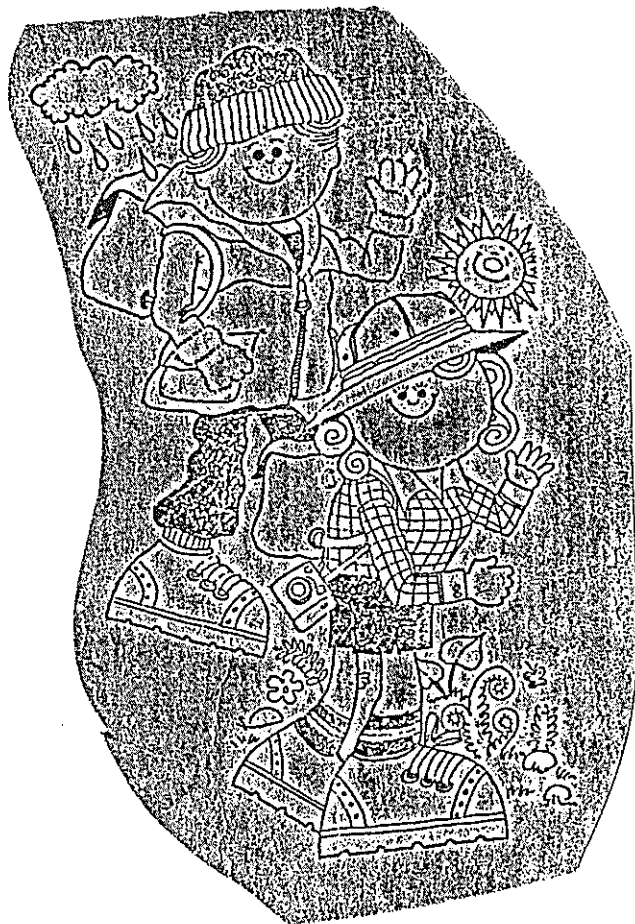
Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club

P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

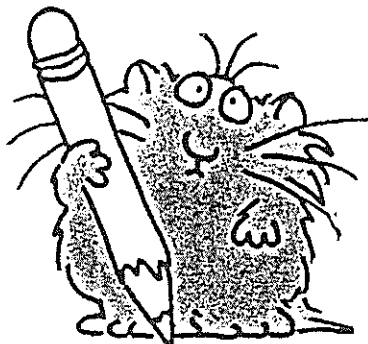
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MARCH 1989



COMMITTEE...

PRISIDENT	David Peacock	779-855
VICE PRESIDENT	Heather Robertson	877-519
SECRETARY	Ian Sime	36-185
TRESURER	Mark Hanger	739-149
CHIEF GUIDE	Antony Pettinger	879-440
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Michelle Williams	737-814
SOCIAL SEC.	Doug Forrester	876-416
EDITOR	Sue Harding	728 660



The Editor Speaks

The Editor Speaks....

Thanks everyone for their good response for this month's bulletin. Sorry I haven't put everything in. I've been busily trying to complete the bulletin over the last week as I have just returned from my summer holiday.

I'm glad to say Bushcraft was a success as usual. Thanks must go to Antony Pettinger, Ross Cocker and Debbie Williams who worked very hard to ensure that it was a success.

The Easter Social is coming up quickly. I hope it is well supported as it's discouraging for the Social Sec when these occasions are poorly attended. Besides I know Easter Bunny is going and he's a pretty lively fellow. See you there!!!
Sue, your editor....

HUT TICKETS...

Since December 1988 the DOC has appointed a ticket system for the use of National Park and Reserve huts. These hut tickets must be purchased in advanced and are available at DOC offices, National Park Centres and various retail outlets at \$4 each. The club is a retailer of these hut tickets and sells them to club members at a cheaper rate - \$3.50.

Up to 3 hut tickets are required for the highest quality huts, 2 tickets for lesser huts and 1 ticket for standard basic huts.

These tickets are available each club night from me.

Mark Hanger, Treasurer.

NOTES FROM THE CHIEF GUIDE

The July-Dec card is in the planning stages and any suggestions for day or weekend trips are needed. Sign the list on the trip board or see the chief guide (Antony) or day trip convenor (Debbie).

Also we require a LEADER for the Matukituki trip, 6-7 May.
ANY VOLUNTEERS see Antony.

NEW MEMBERS

Pam Bardsley
10 Glenpark Av,
DUNEDIN
Ph 30 595

Robert Sinclair
2/67 Hawthorne Av,
DUNEDIN
Ph 34 070

Ann Whyte
20 Pollock Street
DUNEDIN
Ph 790 377

Darcy Espie
7 Forfar Street
Mosgiel
Ph 89 7704

Greg Simpson
54 Barclay Street
DUNEDIN
Ph 730 512

Lindsay Aitcheson
34 Huia Street
St Leonards
DUNEDIN
Ph 710 020



ADDRESS CHANGE

Mike Farrell
84 Marlborough Mansions
Cannon Hill
West Hampsted
London NW6 1JT
UNITED KINGDOM

Helen Dawson
P.O. Box 6121
DUNEDIN NORTH
Ph 30 524

Russell Dawson
Villa 3
Cherry Farm Hospital
Private Bag
DUNEDIN

Michelle Williams
34 Orbell Street
Pine Hill
DUNEDIN



Hermione Binnie
85 Vagues Road
Northcote
CHRISTCHURCH
Ph 527 894

RESIGNED

Janet Girvan
c/- 212 The Terrace
WELLINGTON
Ph 726 027

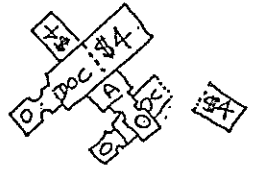
Elsbeth Gold
68 Grove Street
DUNEDIN
Ph 51 245

If anyone is passing thru' Christchu
or in need of a place to stay, pleas
come and see me.

Hermione

Presidential

by



doodles

I must start this month's column by congratulating Antony Pettinger on his adroit organisation of this year's Bushcraft. He showed a maturity and self-confidence that belied his age and experience. I hope that his obvious talents will be available to the Club for many years to come.

The second issue that I would like to raise is the one discussed by Jane Bruce in a recent letter to the "Bulletin" - the Club making a profit on DOC hut passes.

My first impression on reading the letter is that it portrays the Club, or more particularly, the Committee, as being profit-hungry. Further, it suggests that the 9.4% profit that the Club makes was a secret that was being kept from members. Well the information that Jane supplies is perfectly true but I wish to offer my own reasons for supporting the charge of \$3.50 to members.

i) The club does NOT have to sell the tickets: it does so because we, the members, support the idea in principle and we under no circumstances wish club members to avoid paying hut fees. However, the decision to sell them through the Club is to provide a convenient, hassle-free service to members;

ii) The tickets ARE still cheaper to buy than you'll get elsewhere: Graham Hopkins and I aren't complaining even though we recently bought almost \$200 worth;

iii) The CLUB makes a profit but no individuals do; any funds that the Club possesses still belong to the membership. If and when you decide what should be done with the money, you will reap the benefit. ALL money held by the Club is to further the aims of tramping and conservation as determined by the membership;

iv) The Club has no Administration Costs as such in that all the work is done by volunteers but the fact that the person who sells the tickets is a volunteer is important in itself. The administration of the system may become quite onerous and there is always the possibility the volunteers to do the job may be hard to come by in the future. However, the knowledge that the Club is benefiting from the procedure (say, helping to buy a Clubrooms) may encourage someone to undertake the task.

v) It is not strictly true that the only reason for the Club's existence is to pass on benefits to individual members. The Objects laid down in the Constitution include a number of aims that do not directly benefit individual members - and some of them would cost money. One hears very few objections to the RFBPS or NFAC making a profit on book sales to members - what is the difference with our Club?

Finally, in spite of my disagreement with the letter under consideration, I would encourage all members to voice their views and concerns about any issues involving the Club. I want everyone to feel free to express their views for, believe it or not, the Committee is not infallible. However, I do feel that the Committee does try to make its decisions "in good faith" and there was no intention of ripping-off anyone in its decision on hut fees. So, if you do want cheaper hut tickets, let us know about it in relation to the points above.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Madam Ed,

Answering your invitation to bring up Controversial issues via your illustrious printed page (14), I would like to suggest a further category to be added, when required, to the present trip list description.

FOSSICKING is what I have become very good at, thoroughly enjoy, and have busily been teaching others to achieve! I'm not always in the right mood and am sometimes in the wrong place but have found it even more successful when shared! People of any level of fitness can achieve happy and successful fossicking, in intimate groups or family groups, at any and every time of the year.

To FOSSICK is to look around, rediscover, examine more carefully, see individually what is normally part of a whole- in the tramping context, it might mean taking time to see the flowers and to stop to pull out a book and look it up. Or maybe working out a geological profile, photograph fungi, or see how many different bird-calls you can discern in any one area. Maybe fossicking groups would go somewhere to photograph streams and/or maybe mountains and be able to compare results later with the benefit of advice from some more of the advanced photographers in the club? We are a diverse group with a lot of varied experience to share with others.

Over the summer, I have fossicked on several tramps and my companions have seemed to enjoy it! It does mean covering less ground and possibly more slowly, but it's FUN!
Anyone else interested???

Teresa W....

Dear Sue,

We must disagree with you on the timing of Bushcraft for several reasons. Firstly, if February/March is the best time to go tramping surely it's the best time to encourage new comers to give it a go. They'll be a lot more enthused by pleasant days and long evenings than grotty days and bed at 8 o'clock.

Secondly, we're very keen on school pupils and students doing the course. If the course was moved to October/November as you have suggested, it would be an awkward time of the year for doing exams.

Thirdly, many people do a bit of walking while on their summer holidays- perhaps on a DOC program- and come home thinking "I'd like to give that a go". The first thing that they see on their return is Bushcraft advertised.

We feel that instructing on Bushcraft is a way that we can put something back into the community and encourage others to discover for themselves why we love the hills. Remember someone taught you all you know.

Ann Marie and David Barnes.

Dear Sue,

I noticed that a lot of people at the November Special General Meeting had the same questions I had about how practical it was to think of buying our own clubrooms.

I have put together information Arthur gave us at the meeting, membership figures and annual accounts from 1988 and a bit of guesswork to draw my own conclusions.

What we are looking for

- central location. Within Town Belt, north of the Oval and south of the Gardens. Must be an area suitable for younger people to walk at night.
- available for groups. This restricts us to industrial or commercial areas, or to licensed halls in suburban areas.
- a room large enough to hold about 60 people.
- one or more smaller rooms for gear hire and mattress storage.
- tea-making and toilet facilities.

Costs of suitable premises

The cost of various premises is not known precisely. For example, the present clubrooms have a government valuation of \$44,000 but the sale price would be considerably more, and such halls are not often put on sale. Commercial premises are over \$100,000 to buy with high maintenance costs. The costs of premises outside the central city have not been investigated. There is also a shortage of rental properties of the type we are looking for.

Present funds

From the statement of financial position as of 30 June '88 the club had \$43,300 in cash, of which \$3,400 was in the Hut Building Fund, \$27,400 in the Clubrooms fund, and the rest in the General fund. We could probably put \$40,000 towards purchase, provided the members approve of this changed use of the Hut Building Fund.

Club membership

As of 30 June '88 the basic paying membership was:

	<u>Memberships</u>	<u>Net subs (discounted rate)</u>
Full single	85	\$31
Full married	19	\$42
Full junior	4	\$20
Life & honorary	13	-
Postal	20	\$20

This includes Bushcraft '87 people, who paid up to 30 June '88, but it omits Bushcraft '88 people who had joined, but got the months up to 30 June 1988 free. Numbers fluctuate through the year, but this is the basic paying membership.

Actual subs collected 1987-88 year came to \$4080, which is close to the estimated minimum discounted subs of \$3913 using the basic membership figures above.

Running the club

From the statement of income and expenditure 1987-88, without interest from savings the club is barely breaking even each year.

Income: \$6662

This does not include interest payments, as these will be lost if clubrooms are bought. It includes extraordinary income from Bushcraft '88 and trip surpluses.

Expenditure: \$6781

This includes provision for Outdoors '87-'89. It does not include depreciation, which is not a cash item, or rental of \$1250 which will have to be paid in the '88-'89 year.

Estimated annual outgoings on clubrooms

Present rental costs for 50 meetings @ \$25/meeting = \$1250/year. Estimated costs of insurance, rates, licence, power, maintenance for a suburban hall approximately \$1900/year. There would be the possibility of subletting which would make net outgoings similar to renting.

It is worth noting that we rely on the expertise and enthusiasm of a very few people to keep maintenance costs low.

Mortgage costs

Annual payments at 15.25% interest:

Mortgage	<u>10 year mortgage</u>	<u>25 year mortgage</u>
\$10,000	\$1958	\$1560
\$20,000	\$3909	\$3121
\$30,000	\$5863	\$4681
\$40,000	\$7818	\$6241

Other fundraising

Grants from local bodies etc; we have tried this without success in the past. Perhaps we could try changing our name to the Otago Tramping and Rugby Club?

Increasing subs; an increase in subs to \$40, \$50 and \$30 (all excl GST) would raise \$1160 more- if no members resigned because of the increase!

5 year membership bonds; suppose 5 full single and 5 married memberships paid their subs in advance for the next 5 years, plus 10% for avoiding inflation. This would raise \$2007.50. Note that this income would not be available for running the club over the next 5 years.

Loans; 4 people who replied to the survey offered a total of \$3750 in loans. Like a mortgage, these would have to be repaid (with interest if any) over the next few years.

Fundraising; probably a short-term fundraising effort would be well supported by members. I cannot imagine fundraising every year to pay the mortgage!

AHURIRI (Canyon Creek) 14-15 Jan)

We reached the Ahuriri well after dark and thought we should establish some landmarks en route down the valley. 103 rabbits after the turn-off, you should reach the Ben Ohau/Birchdale boundary where the road divides; (beware kamikaze rabbits #57 who dared Bill to run him over and #87 who did a double somersault in front of the car before running away and #151 appeared drunk and ran towards the car in a wobbly line; #156 should be a sign that your destination is near!

Ahuriri Base Hut is easily visible in daylight, very near the edge of the bush; however neither the bush nor the hut are obvious in the dark. Start looking for a grass track just beyond the first fence line after the cattleyards. We had a decadent start to the weekend with a brew-up and biscuits on arrival, (while Bill locked the car to keep the possums out!) and discussed what happens to our brains when soaked in formalin. The strain was so much that Heather dreamed of sharks (what would Freud say?) and Bill had to have his breakfast in bed.

We walked up the valley road about about 1½ hrs to Canyon Creek- Moir says 'the road ends at Canyon Creek and a four wheel drive track continues up the valley (obtain permission first)' - as we did not intend to go beyond Canyon Creek, we did not contact the runholder in question and did not take vehicles on his track. En route on Sunday we were questioned as to where we had been and ~~whether~~ we had thought about obtaining permission first; our questioner drove past us and was seen to stop at Ahuriri Base Hut, possibly to check the intentions book, before driving on.

Canyon Creek is easily reached, on a well marked track that ~~starts~~ through bush slightly upstream from the junction with little Canyon Creek. It climbs steeply for about an 1½ hr to a lookout ~~into~~ the top of the valley and then down to the valley floor. We followed the stream, the track sometimes marked in bush or across the flats, keeping to the true right until we reached the foot of the waterfall at the head of the valley. Cairns mark the steep route up to the left of the cliffs, through scruffy low bush and into the south side of the hanging valley. Some are difficult to find, but it is worth persevering, the valley is dramatic, with flowers, streams and interesting corners. We camped surrounded by gentians and panoramic views.

Towards the head of the valley, there are sporadically placed cairns marking the route to a luxury bivvy rock. Moir describes it as being in the middle of the valley- we found it very near the head of the valley, easily visible as the largest rock on the flat area just past a large scree fall on the left hand side.

Both levels of the hanging valley were fascinating networks of waterfalls, streams, vegetation and views, with good camping spots. Access looked far more difficult than it was, as long as patience was used to follow the track, and as we came out we were sorry we had 'nt had an extra day to fossick around the hanging valley, climb the ridge overlooking the Ahuriri and generally explore. Nobody can tell us the Ahuriri Valley is a boring valley!

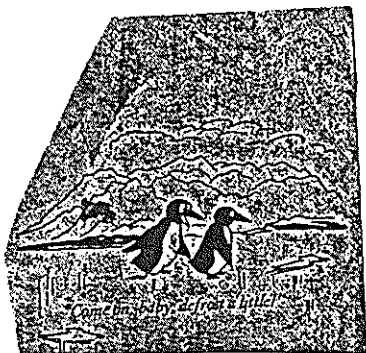
Heather & Bill Robertson with Teresa W.

Donations; judging from the survey returns (7 people offered donations totalling \$680), the most enthusiastic members might be expected to donate \$100 each. Younger active members might give \$50. Say at most 20 members @ \$100 and 50 members @ \$50 = \$4500.

I expect that in any fundraising effort the amount of enthusiasm would depend very much on whether an individual member approved of the particular building that was going to be purchased.

My conclusions: This is a tramping club. I like the idea of owning our own clubrooms, and if the committee found a building I thought was a good buy I would be prepared to put a bit of money and time towards buying and maintaining it. But unless a clubrooms can be bought outright with the OTMC \$40,000 plus donations to make up the balance, it would require long term fundraising or subs increases to pay off the mortgage each year. If we can't buy clubrooms outright, then I think a 5 or 10-year lease would be the ideal compromise- it would give us a home and let us get on with our tramping.

... see you in the hills,
Jane Bruce



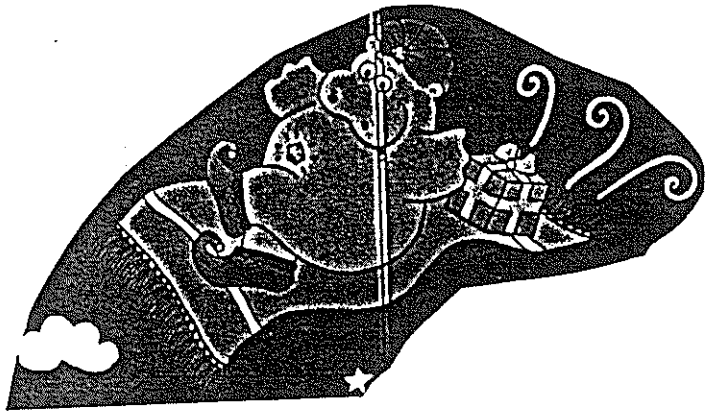
Christmas Trip :-

Are people enthused about having a Christmas Trip?

Do you think we should have one, as the last 2 years Christmas trips have been poorly supported?

If anyone has any ideas, suggestions or shows any interest please contact

Antony Pettinger :- 8794



EASTER SOCIAL

MARCH 18th --\$10 perperson
27 Anzac Ave (above carpet warehouse)

Pay at the door, which will be closed at 10pm. If you can't make it until after 10pm, ring me before Saturday and will arrange a time as you won't be heard from upstairs. Aplate please for supper, plus an Easter egg for Easter Bunny'8. Whoop de doo....

Bring your own drinkies, good gear (no jeans). Gets very hot in the hall so cotton will be the name of the game.

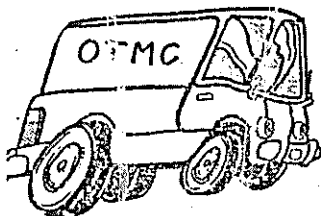
SPECIAL GUEST...a dance instructor or two to show us ~~how~~ how easy dancing is.

Right oh members and friends, it's up to you now. 8pm and instruction will get under tthe way early

Easter
Social
HOORRAY!!!



TRIP PROGRAMME



MARCH 19th NENTHORN (E-M) Peter Mason 775-237

This is the first day trip for a while and is also a good chance to get rid of your hangovers from the Easter Social. Join Peter for a trip to a place that is rarely visited by the club. Meet at the clubrooms at 9am.

24-27 MARCH EASTER- MAKARORA AREA Mark Hanger 739-149

One of the major trips of the year. This year we are heading for the Makarora area. Good trips are to be had up rivers such as the Wilkin, young, Blue, Fish, Siberia, etc. There is also a good scope of round trips and also good climbing. The trip will be 4 days long and to minimise costs, transport will be by Mark's bus with the balance by private cars. The trip list closes on 16 th March.

24 27 MARCH EASTER - ESQUILANT BIVY PROJECT
CONTACT Antony or Ian Sime.

A project being organised by the Southland section of the Alpine Club is planned at Easter to rebuild the Esquilant Bivy. It's no longer planned to carry the materials from the road so this should enthuse more people to help.

2 APRIL MAUNGATUA'A (M) Pam Cocker 45-995

An interesting trip on to the Manugatua's, is a good chance to have a good look at the Taieri from a different view point.

9 APRIL THE CHALKEIES (M) Mike Gilles 730-250

Ever wondered why the Chalkies are so named. WELL IF YOU

Come on this day trip and you will find out.

8-9 APRIL MT COOK (ALL) Doug Forrester 876-416

This trip is bound to be a great trip, isn't that right Doug!! Upon signing on this trip list, does'nt mean you are going to climb Mt Cook. There are plenty of other tramping trips and with good weather that's been promised it should be great. The list closes on the 30th March.

16 APRIL ORIENTERRING (M) David Peacock 779-855

Since Bushcraft it has become apparent that club members need some practice on map and compass work, so a day trip has been arranged. Further details available from David or



The Social Programme!

THE SOCIAL SCENE...

MARCH 16th Mike Floate, visit to the USA and some impressions of their National Parks. A top speaker this fella, and sure to be well illustrated.

MARCH 23rd ~~NO~~ MEETING due to Easter.

MARCH 30th Ross Cullen, Everest '85. A very experienced climber talks on his Everest Expedition.

APRIL 6th Finally it's a BYO (slides that is). Should be plenty by now, so please sort them out.

APRIL 13th Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation, (CPR) with Bevan Blackmore. A life size dummy will be available to practice on. (no not the sort you get from Truths backpages.) Right members this night is a must for those who don't know CPR and also for those who have forgotten, BE THERE!!

APRIL 20th Informal, come along for a chat.

MSC AGM :- Held at the Wilderness Shop on Monday 20th March 7.30pm. They will be voting for MSC reps. We want one for the club!!

If interested please contact :-

Mike Floate :- 739780

or

David P. ... :- 779222